

THE HAWAIIAN GAZETTE

RODERICK O. MATHESON, EDITOR

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Military Information

It would appear, says the Army and Navy Journal, that Secretary of War Garrison is not personally responsible for the report issued from the war department in his name. His loyalty to the administration of which he is a member required him to sacrifice his own conviction in making his recommendations to congress on the subject of preparedness. Those who have studied his first annual report and read his public utterances realize that the program which has been adopted is not one that represents Mr. Garrison's ideas, as shown in his outline of policy published two weeks ago. It is not in harmony with the plans that he had announced when the President authorized him to prepare a report on the question of land defense. At that time Mr. Garrison explained that the report that was to be sent to the next congress would be really an elaboration of the report of 1912. He made no secret of his intention to be guided by the recommendations of the war college.

It will be remembered that after Secretary Garrison sent his first report to the President it was held for five or six weeks without any action. It was during this period that the President was visited by Senator Kern, of Indiana, the leader of the senate; Representative Kitchin, of North Carolina, the leader of the house, and a number of other "small army" men. From an absolutely reliable source it has been learned that it was then that the President decided to reject the war college's report. Hostility toward the military authorities has been further indicated by the decision this week not to make the war college report public until after congress convenes in December. This report is treated as if it were one of the regular annual reports from the bureaus in the department. It is realized that the country's attention is now centered on the question of national defense. Earnest and thoughtful men, without regard to party affiliations, are seeking light upon the subject. They want the very best advice as to what should be done and have been expecting expert opinions from the war department, and the President in his letter on the subject given out in June promised to give this to the country.

The President was appealed to to permit the publication of the report by the secretary, who, it is known, favored giving out not only his own report, but the report of the war college two months ago. Not only the secretary of war, but a number of prominent advocates of national defense urged that the war college report be published before congress convenes, so that the members of congress may have an opportunity to discuss it with their constituents. But this small favor has been refused. It is the evident purpose to get all the members of congress into Washington, where they can be reached more easily and where they will have less time to consider the report. But despite all of these efforts the war college report will be considered by congress and the country when it is made public.

Every event in the European war emphasizes the importance of allowing the military authorities to control military affairs. The time was when the people could be deluded by demagogic attacks upon army officers, but now thinking men begin to recognize them as the highest authority on military affairs, and they will not be satisfied if the war college recommendations are disregarded in legislating for the army. We are informed that the war college plan provides for a much larger number of trained men and does not contain such temporizing ideas as are to be found in the much discussed Continental Army plan. It has not been the custom in the past to publish recommendations of the general staff of the army or the general board of the navy. Secretary Daniels having created a precedent in attaching the general board's report to his own statement of the ships required by the navy. But in a time like the present, when so much is at stake, it would seem to be advisable to discard precedent in the war department, at least to the extent which has been allowed in the navy department. The people are entitled to know the expert opinion of the men the country pays to formulate its defense plans. It is quite safe to say that the war college plan differs substantially from the plan adopted by the administration.

Perhaps the police are not putting up jobs on those Chinese and others who are willing to tell the truth about the gambling situation, but it is worth mentioning that few Chinese who talk are long at liberty. Henry Li, the young Chinaman who wrote the letter to Mayor Lane regarding the che-fa situation, which elicited the famous reply from Sheriff Rose that his men could not catch the gamblers because they were "too tricky," has been twice arrested, the first time shortly after he wrote his complaint, the next time immediately after The Advertiser published a few addresses of gambling games in last Sunday's issue, information which the police credited to Li. The public may not have noticed it, but the police proved to be a whole lot more efficient in hunting down and locating Li than they have been in locating any of the gambling games to which Li has offered to lead them. The police, too, have shown a studious lack of interest in taking up the offer of The Advertiser to supply them with the home addresses of some of the che-fa games.

Time For Talk Past

THE message left with the business men of Honolulu by Mr. Brunswick, the representative amongst the Great Northern passengers of the Los Angeles chamber of commerce, is worthy of the very deepest consideration. The owners of the magnificent liner are showing their sincerity in the matter of the direct service between Southern California and this port, a service which Honolulu has been professing to desire for the past ten years. They are spending more in the advertising of this service to Honolulu than the Hawaiian Promotion Committee is spending in the advertising of the entire Territory, and they have agreed to maintain the service for five round trips.

This provides a thorough test of the possibilities of the run and gives a length of service that will afford Honolulu importers and exporters every opportunity of showing exactly how much they have meant in the long continued expression of desire for a direct Los Angeles connection, and put to the proof the recent highly laudatory burst of patriotism, which demanded that Hawaii set the example to the nation of "keeping the Stars and Stripes afloat on the Pacific".

Even in this Paradise of the Pacific we cannot expect to get something for nothing nor hope to have what we want without reaching for it. Even the desire of the tourists to visit our beautiful Islands will not bring them here without ships, and it must be remembered that in this time and age there are those traveling who demand the best and who will not be satisfied with less.

The success of the first trip has been beyond the expectation of the backers, but the initial run of the Great Northern nets a loss to the company, nevertheless. The receipts during the five test trips must at least equal the expenses. This will be easy, if what Honolulu has been declaring for the past few years means anything.

The War News

ATTENTION has been called in a communication to the afternoon paper to an error in the rewriting of the Associated Press despatches of November 17 regarding the sinking of the British hospital ship Anglia and of the British collier Lusitania, by—as it turns out to be—floating mines. The Advertiser acknowledges the error on its part in attributing the double sinking to the policy of "frightfulness" that sent the passenger liner Lusitania to the bottom and left the waves tossing dead bodies of American women and children, although the error was natural enough. The fact that the second ship was sunk while attempting to aid the first ship wrecked, so closely duplicated the case of the sinking of the Arabic while it was on an errand of mercy that the cases seemed parallel. The fact that no submarines were reported in the Channel at that time—except those half a hundred or so that had been sent to the bottom by the British trawlers—was not particularly significant. It will be remembered that prompt and official denials were made of the torpedoing of the Hesperian, afterwards proved by American ordnance experts.

Errors are bound to occur in the transmission of news, but these are not intentional on the part of The Advertiser which publishes the news. For instance, the "official" cablegram sent by the German embassy to the German consul at Manila, on November 13, announced the closing of the Suez canal to all merchantmen, something which, of course, was untrue. The German embassy simply erred, just as others do sometimes, but that error was kept out of the official despatches received and published in Honolulu.

The Associated Press transmits news. It does not vouch for the accuracy of what it sends to Honolulu. It aims to be as accurate as possible, but is not infallible. A Rome despatch, received by The Advertiser on Tuesday night, for instance, stated that the American tanker Communipaw had been "submerged" in the Mediterranean. Yesterday it forwarded the gist of the official report of Ambassador Page that the tanker had been captured and not sunk.

It is only a "creature of passion, disloyalty and anarchy" who can see "distortion of news" in such contradictions.

In the fighting which has been resumed in China, we hasten to declare our neutrality. We trust that the Sons of Confucius, on the one hand, and the Bow Wongs on the other, will not find it necessary to furnish this paper with complaints on the news service we shall furnish concerning the progress of the hostilities, nor send us anonymous postcard compliments through the mail and abuse by equally anonymous telephoning. We credit the Chinese of this city with sufficient sense to know that The Advertiser publishes all the reliable news it can get and is able neither to announce victories that have not been won nor suppress the news of those things which have transpired.

Secretary Lansing's reply to von Bernstorff, request for the reasons underlying the demand that his military and naval attaches be sent home ought to satisfy the ambassador. Lansing says it is because they have been too anxious to earn their salaries; The embassy might have supposed that it was because Lansing didn't like their looks.

Sixty-Fourth Congress

THE President's message, read yesterday to congress in joint session, is the momentous pronouncement expected, even though it contains no surprises. The actual presentation of the program for preparedness forms the most vitally important section of the program outlined, although the blunt designation of the Teutonic "war plotters" by the head of the nation as ones who "have poured the poison of disloyalty into the very arteries of our national life" will doubtless attract the greater attention of the world for the moment. The determination of the government, supported by loyal citizens from many lands, to close "the hand of power" over these "creatures of passion, disloyalty and anarchy," as voiced by the President, is as outspoken as the recent revelations and charges justify.

National defense and the means of providing money to carry out the administration plans, admittedly, are the chief problems which the sixty-fourth congress will face, although democratic leaders who had hoped to make military preparedness a non-partisan question are not confident of success, notwithstanding the widespread endorsement given President Wilson's program by prominent members and organizations affiliated with minority parties. The chief stumbling block is the method of raising the enormous revenues which will be needed and certain Republican leaders have already indicated they are ready to make political capital of the Democratic dilemma should the party in power find itself compelled to resort to a bond issue or any of the tariff measures hitherto condemned by them. With leaders of both parties looking toward the national campaign next fall the session promises to be of unusual interest.

The new Congress is still Democratic, but not so overwhelmingly as it has been on previous occasions when President Wilson addressed it. In the senate the party has a slightly increased majority, but political fortunes have reduced the almost unwieldy force in the House that came in on the Democratic landslide that elected Mr. Wilson so that now the party will have only a majority over all of twenty-four votes. This is regarded as a narrow margin in a body composed of 435 members, requiring a party defection of only thirteen votes to defeat a measure.

The new house as officially classified consists of 229 Democrats, 197 Republicans, six Progressives, one Independent, one Socialist and one vacancy through the recent death of Representative Witherspoon of Mississippi. In the senate there are fifty-six Democrats and forty Republicans. Republican ranks in the house have been swelled by the return of many familiar political figures who were leaders in the long period of Republican supremacy. Among them are former Speaker Joseph G. Cannon and William B. McKinley, former chairman of the Republican legislative committee, both of Illinois; Nicholas Longworth, of Ohio, son-in-law of Colonel Roosevelt; William A. Rogers, of Illinois; Theodore J. Hill, for years a Republican power on the Ways and Means committee, and John Q. Tilson, both of Connecticut; George E. Foss, of Illinois, former chairman of the Naval committee; Cyrus A. Sullivan, of New Hampshire, former chairman of the Pension committee, remembered as towering above the heads of all other members; George W. Loud, of Michigan; Benjamin K. Focht, and Daniel F. Lefane, of Pennsylvania and many others. Prominent members of the Sixty-third House who do not re-appear at this session are Oscar W. Underwood of Alabama, who now is a Senator; A. Mitchell Palmer, of Pennsylvania; Robert F. Broussard, of Louisiana, who also went to the Senate; Charles L. Bartlett, of Georgia; Timothy T. Ansberry, Robert J. Buckley and Stanley J. Bowdle, of Ohio; Jeremiah Donovan, of Connecticut; H. Robert Fowler, of Illinois; Henry George Jr., Lathrop Brown, Herman A. Metz, Frank E. Wilson, Henry M. Goldfogle, and Jefferson M. Levy, of New York; Richmond Pearson Hobson, of Alabama, who has led the fight for national prohibition; C. H. Burke and E. W. Martin, of South Dakota; Victor Murdock, of Kansas, and many others.

New Democrats in the Senate are Mr. Underwood of Alabama; James D. Phelan, of California; J. C. W. Beckham, of Kentucky; Mr. Broussard, of Louisiana; Edwin S. Johnson, of South Dakota, and Paul O. Husting, of Wisconsin. On the Republican side the new senators are Charles Curtis, of Kansas, formerly a member; James W. Wadsworth Jr., of New York, and Warren G. Harding, of Ohio. Senators who have retired after years of service include Root, of New York, Burton of Ohio; Perkins, of California; Thornton, of Louisiana; Bristow, of Kansas; Crawford, of South Dakota and Stephenson, of Wisconsin. Others who retired after short service are White, of Alabama, and Camden, of Kentucky.

In relative importance on the administration's legislative program the army and navy increases in the five-year plan for perfecting the national defenses come first. Allied with them is the revenue problem which involves consideration of many subjects. Re-enactment of the war tax which expires by limitation, increasing the income tax, amending the tariff to retain the duty on sugar which otherwise would go on the free list next year, bond issues, some sort of tax on incomes from the manufacture of munitions of war, and an inheritance tax, all involve serious problems and there is great diversity of opinion as to what should be done.

Republican leaders who are expected to favor generally a large army and navy increase, will seek to restore protective tariff rates and prolonged discussion and vigorous political scheming is expected when once the tariff is opened. Some

Democrats think the duty on wool should be restored.

The inheritance tax has many advocates and there are some who would amend the war tax materially by assessing all liquors heavily. Others would revive the agitation to tax gasoline and automobiles.

Already Democratic opposition to the President's army and navy program has developed, and the defection of Majority Leader Kitchin, who has succeeded Mr. Underwood as head of the majority party in the house, has been widely heralded. The administration, however, will not be embarrassed for adequate marshals on the floor of the house. Chairman Hay, of the military committee, will lead the fight for the army bill; Representative Padgett will guide the destinies of naval appropriations, and they will be aided by Representatives Sherley, chairman of the fortifications committee, Fitzgerald, of appropriations, and Speaker Clark himself, who is steadfastly an advocate of reasonable preparedness.

In connection with the preparedness program complications are expected to involve proposed investigation of organizations which are urging Congress to make heavy appropriations. Lobby committees of Senate and House expect to have plenty to do. Their inquiries may lead into the realm of foreign relations, for there is a certainty that congress will demand information of the government's investigations into bomb plots, attempts to cripple munition plants in this country, and of other operations growing out of the European war.

Important measures which will be urged upon congress include:

Laws to extend the American merchant marine; rural credit improvement through establishment of farm loan banks, upon which a joint committee has been working for many months; Philippine self-government and ultimate independence; revision of the trust laws to prevent dumping of cheap foreign products in American markets after the war and to permit American manufacturers to establish collective selling agencies abroad; national prohibition, prohibition for the District of Columbia, a federal amendment for woman suffrage, amendments to the bank law, modification of the seaman's law, a national child labor law, conservation legislation to provide a new system for water power sites and mineral resources of the country; a law to provide for regulation by the Interstate Commerce Commission of the issuance of railroad securities and many other measures.

The majority in the senate will try to overturn precedent and establish a cloture rule, thus making endless filibustering impossible. Senator Owen, chairman of a special committee to revise the rules, will submit an early report and an effort will be made to adopt a modified cloture rule before anything else is done, although the Democratic caucus has decided not to make this a party question.

The long delayed treaty with Colombia, including an expression of regret for the partition of Panama, and providing for payment of \$25,000,000 is still pending. The Nicaraguan treaty proposing payment by the United States of \$3,000,000 for another canal strip and naval station rights is in the Senate and the new treaty for a financial protectorate over Haiti will be sent in at once. It is the purpose of the majority to force all the treaties to a vote.

'Jobbing' Honolulu

IT commences to look as though Honolulu is being badly "jobbed" in the matter of the site for the federal building. When the negotiations for the sale of the Irwin site were under way in Washington, at the time it was finally decided to abandon the Mahuka site, the late W. G. Irwin made a liberal offer of his property and of the share he controlled in the Opera House and its site. The balance of the Opera House belonged at that time, and undoubtedly does still, to Rudolph Spreckels, the owner of the now Spreckels' site, and Mr. Spreckels put a figure on his minority interest so high that it ran the combined price of the Irwin site well over that at which he was offering his own site to the government. Mr. Spreckels wanted considerably more for his small interest in the Opera House than Mr. Irwin asked for his very large interest.

Mr. Irwin then demonstrated his liberality anew, placing a flat figure on the Irwin site including the Opera House, Mr. Spreckels' interest and all, requesting the government to condemn the Spreckels' interest, pay the award and deduct it, whatever it might be, from the flat figure submitted.

If Mr. Irwin were alive today, that offer would probably still hold, but the reports from Washington now state that the "high figure" asked by the present owners of the Irwin site is killing the chances for that site. If the truth were known, it would probably be discovered that it is the figure again of the Spreckels' interest in the Opera House which is robbing Honolulu of the greatest opportunity for civic beautification that will ever be presented.

If the government be sincere in its desire to assist civic ideals, why cannot it secure the Irwin site through condemnation proceedings? The case could be given precedence by the attorney general, and the matter of securing possession of the site could be determined within four months, in plenty of time for the commencement of building operations.

The Spreckels' site, so called, has not a feature of improvement over the Mahuka site, while in many respects it is a less desirable location. Apparently, Honolulu has been "jobbed plenty" for the sake of a real estate deal and this city will be paying the price for a century to come.

BIG RUN IS MADE ON DIVORCE COURT

Two Couples, Whose Marital Bonds Are Cut, Will Be Freed Christmas Day

The biggest run in months on the office of the clerk of the circuit court in the matter of filing suits for divorce occurred yesterday when five actions were offered and accepted. Since the first of the year 294 suits for divorce have been instituted in Honolulu, of this number eight having been filed since December 1, or one for each working day so far.

The suits filed yesterday were as follows:

Mary C. Martin against Marion C. Martin, on the ground of non-support. An order to show cause has been issued and Martin commanded to appear before Judge Whitney on Tuesday of next week at nine o'clock in the morning to show cause why he should not pay temporary alimony to his wife during the pendency of the action. The Martins were married in Honolulu on August 21, 1901, but have no children.

The other four suits were: Theresa George against Manuel K. George, Lily Kekua against Henry Kekua, cruelty; Eliza Mia against Alfred Mia, cruelty, and Hamado Yaga against Shive Yaga, non-support.

Two divorces, both of which will take effect from and after Christmas Day, were granted by Judge Whitney yesterday, in both cases the minor child of each couple being ordered placed in the custody of its own mother, as follows: Maggie Lee from Suk Choon Lee, on the ground of non-support, and Chulikiel Komorizawa from Haya Komorizawa, desertion.

The Tows did not appear in court yesterday, when the trial was set to take place before Judge Whitney, so Ella is not yet divorced from Yin Taw, non-support and cruelty being the charges preferred by the wife. This case and those of Theresa Vieira against Victor Vieira, and Ye Li Sa Farn against Pau Yu No, which had been set for trial today, have been continued to later dates on the knockout. The judge will hold no session of court today.

TWO FOOTPADS HOLD UP AND ROB HAWAIIAN

When Money Fails Victim Is Knocked On Head

Two masked men held up and robbed Sam Keliipulele in Kamehameha IV road last night. The footpads were legions, soldiers' coats and no hats. When Keliipulele informed the robbers that he was without money, one of them stepped toward him and struck him on the head with the butt of a revolver. According to Keliipulele, he was walking down Kamehameha IV road and saw two men approaching, wearing overcoats. They stopped for a moment in the road, evidently fixing something, and then resumed their walk toward him. When near they both pulled a mask over their faces, and commanded him to hold his hands up, which he did. After searching his pockets and not finding enough money to satisfy them for their trouble, one of the men struck the victim on the head with the butt end of a revolver.

"The men appeared to be soldiers, and the revolver was the large size that is used in the military service," said Keliipulele last night.

Policemen were dispatched to the scene of the robbery but could not locate the highwaymen.

FILIPINO AND KOREAN FORGET TO SAY ALOHA

Climb Over Jail Wall and Skip To Parts Unknown

Two prisoners have escaped from the city jail in the last two weeks, according to reliable information received by The Advertiser. A Filipino, who was given the position of shoemaker in the jail, made his escape last week, and on Monday afternoon a Korean escaped.

The trick that is employed by the prisoners in escaping is when returning their dinner utensils, or when they are going to the cook shack to secure their meal, they will single off, get near the fence, and a short climb enables them to be on the outside, practically at their will.

The names of the escaped prisoners could not be learned from the sheriff's office. It has been proven through the capture of Yee Yu Keuk that neither of the escaped prisoners have been instrumental in the capture of the bandit, as was suggested to The Advertiser by the sheriff's office when the story of the first escape from the jail was published.

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